A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the existing provision for medical relief in these stations is intended for the benefit of the men, women and children of all communities who wish to avail themselves of it.

(*c*) The question of employing a lady medical officer in the Government Headquarter Hospital, Cuddalore, is under consideration. As regards the other Government hospitals in the South Arcot district referred to in the question the employment of lady doctors is not considered immediately necessary. It is for the local bodies to take the initiative in the matter of the employment of lady doctors in medical institutions maintained by them.

Government contribution to the Cole Dispensary and the Missionary Medical School for Women at Vellore.

* 821 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of contribution which the Government are annually making to the Missionary Medical School for Women and to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore ;

(*b*) whether there is a proposal to make a grant for raising the medical school to a college, and if so, what is the grant proposed ;

(*c*) whether the patients resorting to the Cole Dispensary are charged consultation fees, admission fees, etc., as in private institutions ; if so, what is the income of this dispensary from that source for the years 1924 to 1928 ; and

(*d*) if the answer to the first part of (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the object of the Government in subsidizing the Cole Dispensary ?

A.—(*a*) The Government give an annual grant to the Medical School for Women, Vellore, calculated at the rate of Rs. 190 for each pupil from the Madras Presidency studying in the school during the year, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.

No grant is paid to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore.

(*b*) A non-recurring grant of one-half of the actual expenditure, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been sanctioned in connexion with the scheme for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. No proposal for a recurring grant is under consideration.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) The question does not arise.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister whether the students trained in this Medical School for women are from the Indian States, a majority of them ; and not from this Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" There are some students from Indian States, but not a majority of them "

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is it the duty of Government to pay for the pupils coming from Indian States ? "

29th November 1928]

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"In all the educational and medical institutions of the Madras Province, students of Indian States are also educated."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"At the expense of the Government?"

The hon. Mr S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"All the Government institutions are maintained at the cost of Government and the fees paid by students are comparatively little."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Will the Government be pleased to make a contribution in the shape of scholarships to students coming from the mufassal to the Lady Willingdon Medical School?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will have to put a separate question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I know at what stage the scheme for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women stands at present?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"It has not yet been established, but the buildings are being constructed."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Are the Government aware that the college at Vizagapatam can take more than double the present number and also that the college is not recognized by the General Medical Council? What right have the Government to put money on an American concern which will not be recognized by the Medical Council?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I am not sure the institution will not be recognized by the Medical Council. In the case of private institutions, if they contribute half, we give them the other portion in order to give them facilities."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know from the hon. the Minister, how much of the five lakhs has actually been paid?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know if Government would call for information whether the patients going to the Cole Dispensary are charged any fees?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"As it is a private institution we have no business to make an enquiry. As it belongs to a mission, we are not entitled to go into the details of the working of the institution."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Clause (*d*) of the question is "If the answer to the first part of (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the object of Government in subsidizing the Cole Dispensary". The answer given is "The question does not arise." May I now ask, in view of the supplementary answer, whether it is not the duty of Government to enquire into the fees collected by this institution?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I am afraid, the hon. Member has not read the answer to clause (*a*) where it is stated that no grant is paid to the Cole Dispensary."

[29th November 1928

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. Minister aware that this Cole Dispensary is itself a medical school for women and that the patients going there are charged not only for consultation, but for everything? It is more or less a nursing institute and it is this mission that the Government is going to subsidize. Is it the policy of Government to subsidize these private nursing institutes?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Nursing is also done there and if the hon. Member assumes certain things in putting questions, I am afraid, I cannot answer."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In answer to clause (b), it is stated that five lakhs has been sanctioned for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. Did the Government examine the income of the concern before they decided to make a grant?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The college is not yet established and it can have no income before it is established."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. Minister if the Cole Dispensary has anything to do with the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably the patients in the Cole Dispensary may be supplied the necessary clinical material."

Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" So, may I know whether the estimated income from the 'hospital' which occurs in the words 'combined hospital and medical college for women' will be utilized for its maintenance?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Whether the hospital which is going to be established will produce income or not, I am not in a position to say. The grant now made is not for the maintenance of the institution, but for the building of the hospital."

Appointment of assistant surgeons.

* 822 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what was the number of applicants for the Assistant Surgeon's post;

(b) how many of them were Brahmans, non-Brahmans and Muslims;

(c) the number of assistant surgeons selected this year and how many of them are Brahmans and Muhammadans;

(d) whether, in view of the very poor representations and the assurance given by the hon. the Minister on previous occasions, the Government will consider the claims of the existing graduates of the Muhammadan community for immediate appointments as assistant surgeons; and

(e) the number of house surgeons with and without allowance recruited this year and the number of Muhammadans and Brahmans in each case?